CHARTER FOR THE ARMY'S INTEGRATED PRODUCT TEAM (IPT) for ENVIRONMENTAL DATA BASE STANDARDIZATION INITIATIVES SUPPORTING MODELS and SIMULATION (M&S) and COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS, COMPUTERS AND INTELLIGENCE (C4I) SYSTEMS (Short Name–Environmental Database IPT) (EDB IPT)

I. BACKGROUND. In many ways, the virtual environments developed by Modeling and Simulation (M&S) systems have led the Army's digitization and information dominance initiatives. However, lack of interoperability between producers of digitized environmental data, command and control systems and M&S systems have made efforts to increase fidelity of virtual environments inefficient, frustrating and very expensive. While many past efforts to correct these inefficiencies have failed, current efforts at the Department of Defense (DoD), NASA, NIMA, and the Army are converging. As a result, the opportunity to design a new interoperable information infrastructure capable of providing standard digitized environmental information is emerging. The cornerstone of this opportunity is a visionary next generation information system documented in the DoD Geospatial Information Infrastructure Master Plan (GII MP). The Army EDB IPT is a major effort designed to coordinate the Army's C4I, M&S and topographic communities' initiatives and requirements with the ongoing efforts of NIMA and the Defense Modeling and Simulation Office (DMSO) in order to produce the integrated and interoperable environmental information infrastructure envisioned in the GII MP.

While this effort will result in increased efficiencies for the M&S community, the real purpose behind this Army initiative is ***increased capability for our next generation of C4I systems.***

Furthermore, our forces will not be able to accomplish the Army Vision if contingency deployments are delayed while waiting on a new set of environmental data – either for training or operational requirements.

II. AUTHORITY. The EDB IPT is established by the Army Model and Simulation Office (AMSO) at the direction of the Army Model and Simulation Executive Council (AMSEC) co-chairs.

III. VISION. An Army capability to generate, maintain, use and re-use realistic Synthetic Natural Environments – cost effectively and on demand – to support a wide variety of warfighter applications. This vision is consistent with and supports the long term vision documented in the DoD Geospatial Information Infrastructure Master Plan (GII MP).

IV. PURPOSE. The purpose of the IPT is to identify what terrain and environment standardization initiatives must be accomplished to support the Army Vision and to reduce time and costs associated with producing environment data. Once the required initiatives are determined, the EDB IPT will develop and shepherd an Action Plan designed to create a common terrain and environmental database system for the Army, consistent with the NIMA Geospatial Information Infrastructure Master Plan (GII MP) and complementary to the DMSO Integrated Natural Environment (INE) Program.

V. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. Teams. The Army Model and Simulation Office will chair the EDB IPT composed of stakeholders from the C4I, the topographic, and M&S communities. The team will include O6 level members from: NIMA, DISA, DCSINT, TRADOC DCSSA, TPIO-TD, TPIO-SNE, PM-ATTCS, TPIO-ABCS, NSC, STRICOM, DISC4, ERDC, CECOM RDEC, USMC, and the SIMCI IPT. Other representatives may be determined by the IPT Chair.

b. The IPT is a product oriented team of committed stakeholders responsible for providing leadership required to develop and execute an Action Plan designed to accomplish the Army's Synthetic Natural Environment (SNE) vision statement. As appropriate, the IPT will provide timely updates to the AMSEC co-chairs. Additionally, the IPT will provide In-Process Reviews (IPRs) at each scheduled AMSEC meeting.

c. Funding. The tasks and action plan that evolves from the IPT will correlate to existing organizational missions. The mission to design, develop and establish authoritative, re-usable, cost efficient EDBs has become a highly visible and high priority mission. In general, costs associated with this IPT, to include travel and project work, will be paid for with organizational mission funds.

VI. TASK OBJECTIVES. Develop and coordinate execution of an Action Plan required to realize the Army SNE vision. The Action Plan must be a complete road map of tasks required to accomplish the vision. Relevant tasks include: assignment of responsibilities, delineation of requirements, establishment/refinement of policies, development/refinement of technologies, realignment of organizational resources, and establishment of a project timeline.

VII. LEADERSHIP SUPPORT AND INTENT. Realization of the Army Vision; efficient and effective use of our next generation of Models and Simulations and Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence systems; and better use of scarce resources require the establishment of a common terrain and environmental system. Several serious attempts to address this need in the past have failed. The signatories of this IPT Charter expect their combined efforts to enable this IPT to succeed. We will provide the leadership required to support the IPT mission - develop and coordinate the execution of the Action Plan. In return, we expect each organization to fully support the IPT in accordance with their assigned missions and areas of responsibility. This effort must not be considered an additional unfunded tasking from higher. Instead, it is a step in the process required for all of us to accomplish our assigned missions in a much more effective manner. Many of the responsible organizations are already working on serious portions of the overall problem. By working together, we will change the way we do business – resources will be saved and our soldiers will be better served.

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